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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 002702

SIPDIS

FOR EUR/WE, INR/B

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TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [UK](#)

SUBJECT: WELSH LABOUR ELECTS NEW LEADER

Classified By: Political Minister Counselor Greg Berry for reasons 1.4( b) and (d).

- [1](#)1. (SBU/NF) Summary: Carwyn Jones won an unexpectedly strong victory in the Welsh leadership election and will take over as First Minister
- [1](#)2. (U) The Welsh Labour Party announced on December 1 that it had elected Carwyn Jones as its new leader. Jones has been seen for years as
- [1](#)3. (SBU/NF) Jones was considered more of a mainstream candidate than Hart or Lewis, both of whom struck a more traditionally Welsh socialist
- Jones Faces Tough Challenges -----
- [1](#)4. (SBU/NF) Because Labour is the senior partner of the governing coalition, Carwyn Jones is slated to become First Minister on December 9 (
- Biographic Note -----
- [1](#)5. (SBU/NF) Carwyn Howell Jones was born March 21, 1967 in Swansea, Wales and raised in a Welsh-speaking household in Bridgend, Wales. He h
- [1](#)6. (SBU/NF) Jones is a telegenic public speaker. He is a devoted family man and rugby fan who looks polished in a business suit but has a c
- [1](#)7. (C/NF) Comment: The Welsh Assembly has no power over foreign affairs, so Jones's views on foreign policy will not have a great impact or
- Susman